

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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GENERAL NOTES.

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A NOTE REGARDING THE GREEN ANOLIS FROM THE NORTHERN BAHAMAS.

In December, 1904, I reported on a collection of reptiles from the Bahama islands (Bulletin Mus. Comp. Zool., Vol. 46, 1904, p. 55-61). I then surmised that the specimens called *Anolis porcatus* Gray were really different from that Cuban species. Last year while in Cuba I collected series from Santiago, Puerto Principe, and near Havana, which, added to the small material previously available, makes it possible to present a confirmation of the suspicion of distinctness between Bahaman and Cuban specimens.

In 1894 Cope (Proc. Ac. Nat. Sci., Phila., 1894, p. 432) described *A. principalis brunneus* as a new subspecies from Crooked Island. Now, even though no topotypes of this form are available for comparison, but judging from what we know regarding the distribution of Bahaman lizards, there seems no reason to believe that the specimen which Cope had was different from the examples before me from New Providence and Andros islands. The Bahaman specimens then should stand as a distinct species, which may be known as *A. brunneus* Cope. They may be distinguished from Cuban examples by a much smaller size; the absence of the prominent sky-blue markings on the head and neck of the male; and the more weakly developed longitudinal rugae of the rostrum. The snout of small specimens of *A. porcatus* is somewhat shorter than in the specimens of *A. brunneus* of a similar size; but otherwise they are almost identical. The adult Cuban male specimens can, of course, be distinguished at once in life by the brilliant blueness of their heads, a color which I have not observed them to change.

Stejneger in his paper on "Batrachians and Land Reptiles of the Bahaman Islands" (in "The Bahaman Islands," New York, 1905, the Macmillan Company, p. 332) says: "The Bahaman specimens are very close to the Cuban ones, though I have a strong suspicion that eventually they may be found to be separable. So much is certain, however, that the Bahaman form is in no way directly connected with *A. carolinensis*, but that its relationship is with Gray's *A. porcatus*."

It is interesting to note that the suspicion which was expressed by both Dr. Stejneger and myself regarding the distinctness of these two forms is confirmed; but while there seems no reason to doubt the derivation

of *A. brunneus* from *A. porcatus*, as Stejneger has suggested, it should be noticed that *A. brunneus* is much more similar to *A. carolinensis* than is *A. porcatus*.

—Thomas Barbour.

#### ELEUTHERODACTYLUS RICORDII IN FLORIDA.

The capture of a specimen of *Eleutherodactylus ricordii* (Dumeril et Bibron) at Eau Gallie about the center of the East Coast of Florida in January of this year was a great surprise as I am reasonably familiar with the fauna of this locality. Cope in his Check List of North American Batrachia and Reptilia (Bull. 1, U. S. Nat. Mus., 1875, p. 31) records it from Southern Florida, Cuba and Bahamas. Boulenger (Cat. Batr. Sal., 1882, p. 213) gives a similar distribution though he had seen no specimens. Later Cope writing again in his Batrachia of North America (Bull. 34, U. S. Nat. Mus., 1889, p. 318) says "A single specimen from Key West, Florida, is now in the National Museum. Its proper habitat is Cuba." This seems to be the single capture upon the strength of which Southern Florida has generally been included in the area of its occurrence.

The Eau Gallie example differs in no wise from Bahaman and Cuban individuals plenty of which are available here in the Museum of Comparative Zoology for comparison.

Stejneger has remarked on the identity of Cuban and Floridan examples (The Bahama Islands, New York, The Macmillan Co., 1905, p. 331). He informs me that there is no specimen in the National Museum from Key West, but one old one labeled "Southern Florida" and four others more recently received from Lemon City.

That this form has reached Florida fortuitously and in very recent times there can be no doubt whatever. The questions of the speed of its dispersal and whether it retains permanently its identity with West Indian examples are of very vital interest. This note is offered with the hope that collectors may be on the watch for this species and that they may record specimens that have or which may in future come to their notice.

—Thomas Barbour.

#### ON THE NAME OF THE TRINIDAD CEREBA.

The yellow-breasted honey-creeper from Trinidad was named *C. [areba] trinitatis* by Lowe (Ibis, Oct., 1907, 566), but unfortunately Bonaparte (Comp. Rendus, 38, 1854, 258) gave the same name to the blue honey-creeper, now known as *Cyanerpes cyaneus trinitatis* (cf. Hellmayr. Nov. Zool. xiii, 1906, 8). As this leaves the yellow-breasted bird from Trinidad, if distinct from *C. luteola*, without a name it may be called *Cereba luteola hellmayri*.

—J. H. Riley.